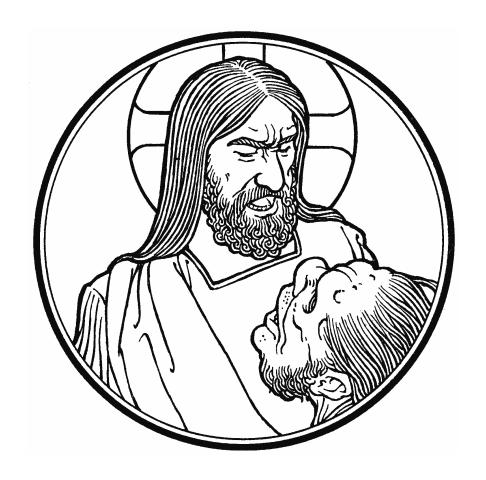
# January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI ~ SYNOD 308 Byrne Street Smithville, TX 78957 512-237-2108 Divine Service 10 AM

**Pastor David Woelmer** 



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We give thanks that our gracious Lord Jesus Christ has gathered us together here for his Divine Service. Today again our Lord comes to serve us and lavish us with his gifts of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Rejoicing in those wonderful gifts, we sing with David in Psalm 84: "How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere."

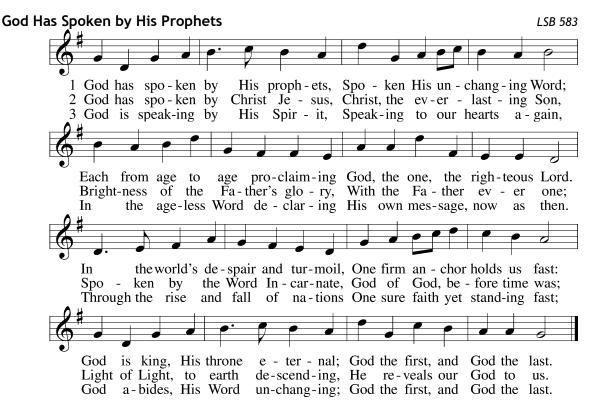
In our readings today: As He promised, the Lord our God has raised up "a prophet" like Moses, namely Jesus, our brother in the flesh. "To him you shall listen," because the Word of the Lord is "in his mouth" (Deut. 18:15–18). Indeed, He is more than a prophet and more than a scribe of the Scriptures; He is the incarnate Word, and He speaks "a new teaching with authority" (Mark 1:22, 27). He enters "the synagogue" of His Church and provides true Sabbath rest, using His authority to silence and cast out "even the unclean spirits" (Mark 1:21–27). By His Word of the cross, He removes the accusations of the Law and of the devil, and He cleanses our consciences before God the Father, "from whom are all things and for whom we exist." Hence, we are now set free from bondage and commended to God by the one Lord, Jesus Christ, "through whom are all things and through whom we exist" (1 Cor. 8:6). Therefore, use your freedom to care for your brothers and sisters, neither causing them to stumble nor wounding their consciences (1 Cor. 8:9–12), but cleansing and strengthening them with the Gospel.

Holy Communion is a sacred gift from Christ to His Church. In this meal, He gives His true body and blood under bread and wine into our mouths in order to forgive our sins and strengthen our union with Him and with one another (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Christians receive this Sacrament trusting Jesus' own words, repenting of all their sin, and confessing the faith taught in Holy Scripture together in unity (Matthew 5:23-24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26). For this reason, and because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-34), we ask that those who have not yet been instructed and those who are not members of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to speak with the pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

# A Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen

PRELUDE
CALL TO WORSHIP BELL
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



Stand

**Invocation** (God has given us our beginning in Baptism, so the Divine Service begins in His Name.) The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

**Confession:** (We cannot come into the presence of our holy God on our own. We recognize our sinfulness and plead for mercy on account of Christ.)

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**Absolution:** (God speaks His words of forgiveness to us through His servant, the pastor.)

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 
  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

# Service of the Word

**Introit:** (Forgiven by God, He invites us into his presence as we speak words from the Psalms.)

Psalm 32:1-2, 5-7; antiphon: v. 10

Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

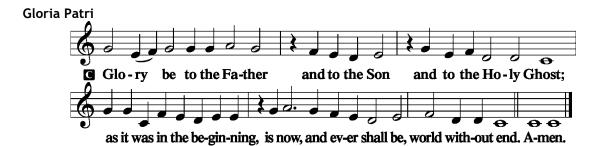
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

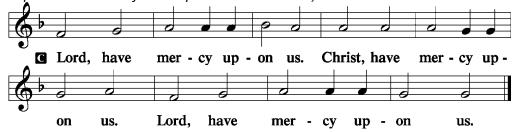
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but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

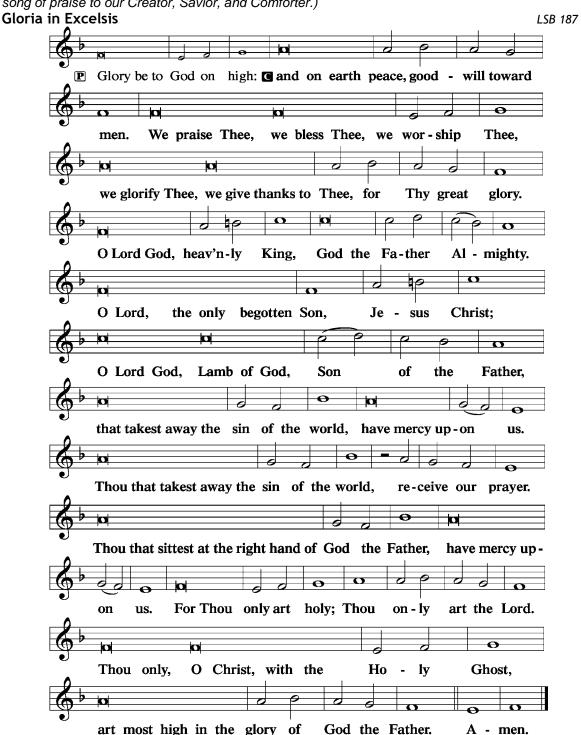


**Kyrie:** (Shortened form of the Greek "Kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy." In the presence of Jesus, we plead for His mercy and help in our time of need.)

LSB 186



**Hymn of Praise:** (Trusting God's promise of mercy, we join the church in heaven and on earth in a song of praise to our Creator, Savior, and Comforter.)



Salutation: (The pastor and congregation greet each other in the Lord's presence.)



**Collect:** (Many of these prayers have been used in the church for over 1,500 years. They "collect" the Gospel theme for the day.)

P Let us pray

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

**Scripture Readings:** (Jesus speaks to us in His Word as our crucified and risen Savior.) **Old Testament Reading**Deuteronomy 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup>"The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'"

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Gradual:** (The Gradual is a portion of a psalm or other Scripture passage that responds to the Old Testament reading and transitions us toward the words of Jesus in the Gospel.)

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

**P**This is the Word of the Lord.

CThanks be to God.

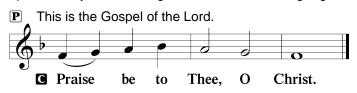
Stand



Holy Gospel Mark 1:21-28



<sup>21</sup>They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.



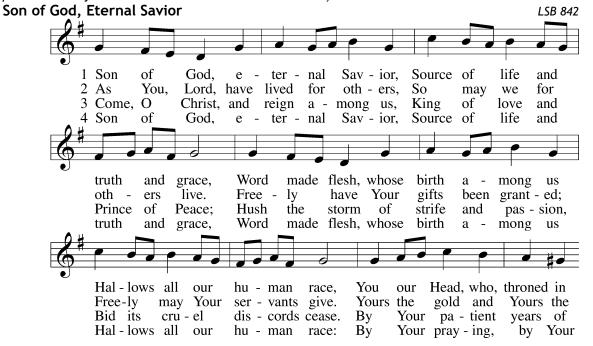
**Creed:** (God works faith in us by His Word that we hear in Scripture. We confess that faith using one of three creeds that the church has used throughout the years and across the world.)

#### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: (This hymn especially relates to the Gospel theme for the day. Each hymn provides a way for us to hear God's Word set to music.)



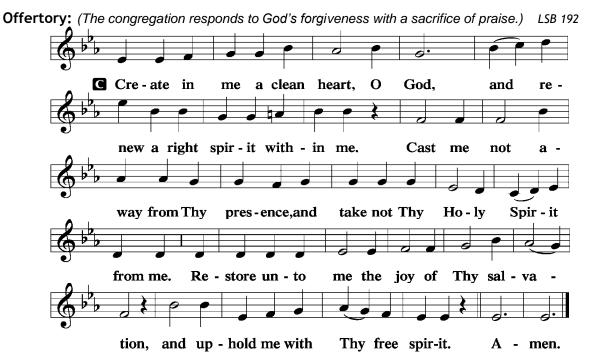


Sermon "Jesus Comes With Authority in His Teaching and Power in His Cleansing" (Based on one of the Scripture readings, the pastor proclaims God's Word of Law and Gospel for our lives today.)

#### Votum

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Amen.

Stand



**Prayer of the Church:** (The congregation joins together to pray for ourselves, for the Church, and for people throughout the world.)

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

# Service of the Sacrament

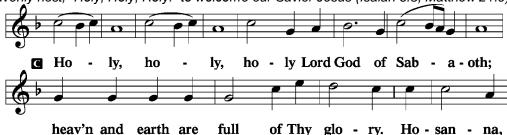
**Preface:** (The Service of the Sacrament begins with praise and thanksgiving for what God has done and is about to do for us in the Lord's Supper.)

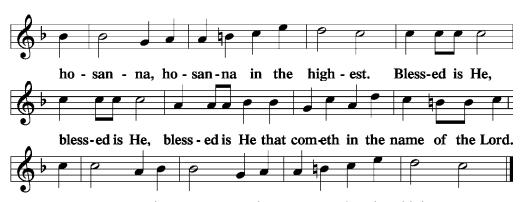
LSB 194



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus:** (Latin for "holy." The division between heaven and earth is gone, and we cry out to God with the heavenly host, "Holy, Holy!" to welcome our Savior Jesus (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9).) LSB 195





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

**Lord's Prayer:** (We pray the words that Jesus gave us to pray, trusting that our Father will hear and answer us.)

- Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Words of Our Lord:** (We hear Jesus' words that in the Sacrament He gives us His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine.)

LSB 197

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini:** (Latin for "The peace of the Lord." The pastor holds the body and blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Lord's peace as the very Gospel.)

LSB 197





11

To

love both great

small

and

You have taught,

Help me,

as



good,

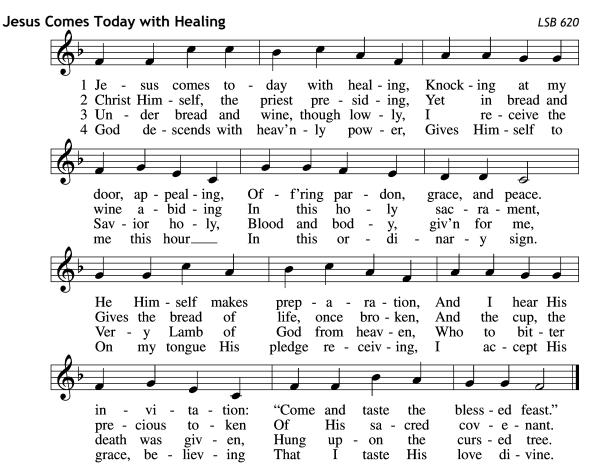
grace

might

A con-science free from
The out - come for my
Then to my words give
And by Your Spir - it's

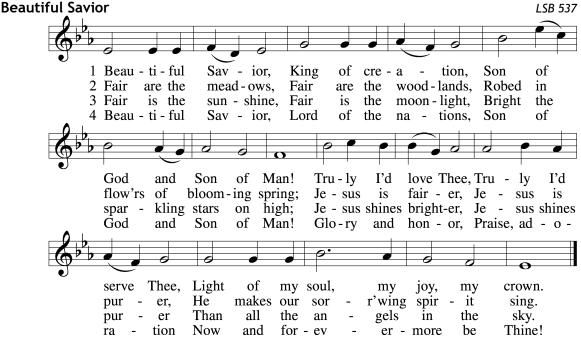
soul un - stained Α by sin. For You must suc - cess. give Lest I of - fend the weak. To live in peace with all.

- 5 Let me depart this life
  Confiding in my Savior;
  By grace receive my soul
  That it may live forever;
  And let my body have
  A quiet resting place
  Within a Christian grave;
  And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day When all the dead are waking, Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking. Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame, And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.



(stanzas 5 &6 on next page)

- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

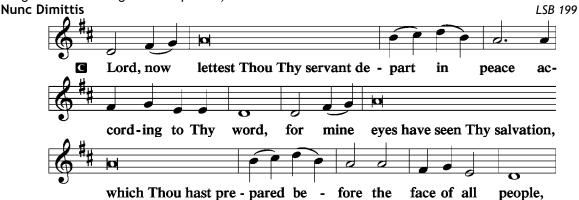


Stand

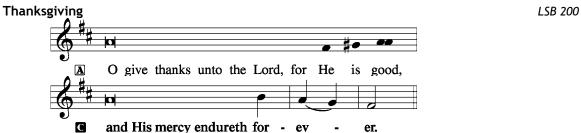
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 
   → in peace.
- C Amen.

**Post-Communion Canticle:** (Having received Christ in our mouths and into our lives in the Sacrament, we give thanks and go forth in peace.)







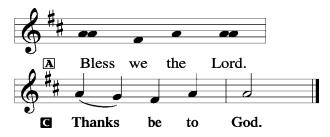
**Post-Communion Collect:** (We thank God for all He has done in the Sacrament and ask that it would show forth in our lives.)

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

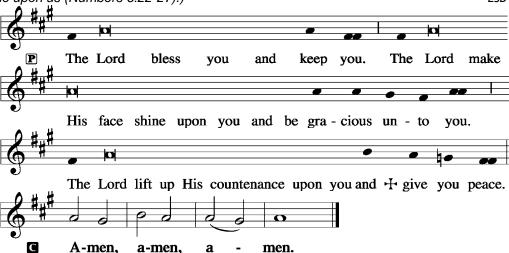






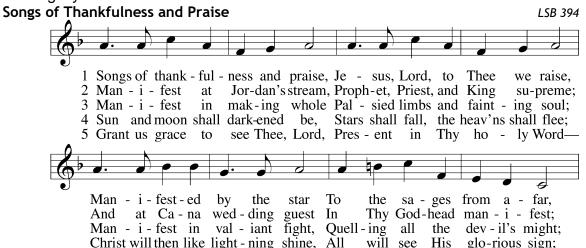
**Benediction:** (Just as the Divine Service began, so it ends. We go forth with our Lord's blessing and His name upon us (Numbers 6:22-27).)

LSB 202



Sit





Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And

be pure, as

pure art Thou;



#### Silent Prayer After Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DISMISSAL

**POSTLUDE** 

#### January 28th, 2024

# The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to joyfully and enthusiastically Model and share the gospel with the lost.

Grace Lutheran Church

Learning Center Director, Angel Hurst
401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957

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401 Wilkes Street, Smithville, TX 78957

Web Site: www.glcs.org

Serving the Lord During Today's Worship Service

Elders: Charlie Johannessen Organist(s): June Parker Davey Kadlecek Esther Wolff

Altar Tammy Campion Ruth Eaton
Guild: Becky Watson

#### AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sun. Jan. 28	Mon Jan 29	Tue. Jan. 30	Wed. Jan. 31
8:45am-Sunday School/Bible			10am- GLLC Chapel
Class			5:30pm- Youth Confirmation Class
10am- Worship/Communion			
11:30am-Adult Instruction			
Class			
Thurs. Feb. 1	Fri. Feb. 2	Sat. Feb. 3	Sun. Feb. 4
6pm-LWML Mtg			8:45am-Sunday School/Bible Class

#### Attendance

Sunday Worship (1/21) 126

#### **Visit with Pastor**

If you need to contact Pastor Woelmer, you can do so via e-mail (rev.davidwoelmer@gmail.com) or phone (214-218-8354). Pastor Woelmer is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. He is available in the afternoons, but often uses that time to make nursing home, hospital or home visits.

#### **Online Resources**

Each week, our congregation live streams the 10:00 AM Sunday morning on our Facebook page (<a href="www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/">www.facebook.com/gracelutheranchurchsmithville/</a>). If you are unable to be in worship on a particular week, this is a great way that you can still hear the Word of God. It's also a great way to introduce someone to our congregation and the good news about Jesus. You can also go back and listen to sermons from previous weeks. Bulletins and newsletters are also available online at our website, <a href="www.glcs.org">www.glcs.org</a>.

## Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study at 8:45 AM continues each week, led by the pastor. Join us to spend time together in God's Word.

#### **KFUO Bible Study Resources**

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study 2 Corinthians 10-13 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Lamentations 2-4 plus Free Text First Friday on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear from Higher Things pastors on their journeys into church work on our Set Apart to Serve series on The Coffee Hour (2/2 at 9:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at <a href="kfuo.org">kfuo.org</a> and the KFUO Radio app!

#### **GEMS**

The Post Oak GEMS invite all girls 5th-12th grade to join us for our first meeting of 2024! We will meet at 2:00 at Holy Cross, Warda, on Sunday, January 28. This month we will vote on which mission project to support with our offerings, and then make posters for our mission goal. Please join us for snacks, a devotion, and Christian fellowship!

# Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up

Save the date! Faith Lutheran High School will be hosting the annual TX Lutheran Writers Round Up on Friday, February 9, from 8:00-2:00. Featured authors this year include Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Rev. Brian Kachelmeier, Rev. Chris Kennedy, Ruth Meyer, Donna Snow, and Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller. Be on the lookout for more details about the schedule in future bulletins, but be sure to mark your calendar now!

# oin Choir

# Interested in joining our GLC choir?

We will be working in the next few months to get a choir together to serve the Lord through song in our worship services. If you're interested, we'd love for you to join! Please contact Ruth Eaton (218-452-3854) or Pastor if you plan on singing or if you'd like more information.

February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31 Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27 Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39



## **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. 8th Grade parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

# **New Student Registration**

Any <u>new</u> student who registers for FLHS prior to Friday, March 8, 2024 will only pay \$100 in registration fees. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at <u>www.flhstx.org</u>.

#### Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am.

# **Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up**

FLHS will welcome Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Rev. Christopher Kennedy, Rev Brian Kachelmeier, Ruth Meyer, Donna Snow, and Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller on Friday, February 9th for the 5th annual Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up. Radio broadcasts, Bible studies, and more occur throughout the day. See our flier for the Round Up to see the full list of opportunities during the event. We are blessed to offer this event to our community, so please plan to join us!

## **Share the Gift of Love**

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

## Thank you!

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know!